

## Hail Americans' Viet Nam War Protest

TEN months have elapsed since Nixon entered the White House. It is to be recalled that during his presidential electioneering, he did not mince his words when criticizing Johnson's policy on Viet Nam as having "failed militarily, politically, diplomatically and with relation to our own people" (Republican platform, August 1968). Nixon promised then to end in 6 months this war which he later termed as "the costliest" and "the most difficult" in all US history.

However since his inauguration, peace prospects on Viet Nam, far from brightening, have been dimming out in American eyes. The toll of GI casualties has surpassed that of any other war hitherto waged by the United States, except World War II. US congressional records on June 30, 1969 revealed that "the cost of the Viet Nam conflict, even assuming a major de-escalation at the end of this year and a total withdrawal next year will be about 350 billion dollars: the estimate does not include inflationary cost owing to the war, the loss of service and earnings by the 33,000 killed in the war to date, the cost of resentment abroad, the depletion of our natural resources, the postponement of our critical domestic programs, the cost of the overeducation and education of our youth, the cost of the suspended cultural program of our nation — and nothing of the death and destruction to the South Viet Nam civilians in the war zone itself."

NIXON promised he would bring in, as far as Viet Nam was concerned, a new policy, a new leadership and a new team.

What has occurred in fact? As an American newspaper has commented, Nixon's ambassador in Saigon is still Johnson's, and his negotiator in Paris is none other than a main Viet Nam policy-maker under Johnson.

The fundamental policy followed by Nixon has not changed an iota compared with Johnson; its name remains "Neo-colonialism." The means used to achieve this aim are also the same: it is "maximum military pressure" which the Pentagon has recently changed into "active protection", but the change is only in appearance and not in substance, as a UP commentator aptly remarked on Sept. 13, 1969. It is also the policy of "Vietnamizing" the war, — again a new name given to the old "de-Americanization" advocated by the Johnson administration. Lastly that is the policy of clinging to the Saigon puppet clique, in which the Thieu-Ky-Khiem troika, more rabidly warlike and blood-thirsty (let's mention the Thieu Duc mass murder as the latest illustration of their wickedness), replaced the Thieu-Ky-Huong trio.

At the Paris Conference, old tunes have been played again and again by the American delegation in the course of the last 37 sessions: they are the "mutual troop withdrawal" aimed at dodging the issue of the total and unconditional pull-out of US and satellite troops; the US refusal to take into serious consideration the South Viet Nam PBC suggestion on the formation of a provisional coalition government to be entrusted with the task of organizing free and democratic general elections.

To open a safety valve and ease the pressure from public opinion, Nixon resorted to paltry subterfuges. He ordered piecemeal pull-out of American troops: 50,000 in 6 months (at such a ratio, the United States would remain bogged down in the Viet Nam quagmire for another 8 or 9 years, according to Senator F. Church's calculations). Another manoeuvre of the American President to distract US public opinion has been a smear campaign against North Viet Nam charged with alleged ill-treatment of captured US pilots, but this apparently holds no water. Again Nixon staged a new comedy on the imaginary "secret contacts" between the DRVN and the USA in a place other than Paris, and the American public has requested to suspend criticism against the Administration in order not to harm those "contacts." At the same time rumours were spread to the effect that military and

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President HO CHI MINH in the first days of the Resistance against French colonialist aggression (1947)

## Premier Pham Van Dong's Message To American People

October 14, 1969

Dear American friends,

US progressives have so far been opposing the war of aggression in Viet Nam. This fall, the broad masses of the American people, encouraged and supported by many peace- and justice-loving American personalities, have again planned to launch a widespread and powerful drive in the whole country for the ending of the war of aggression in Viet Nam, and immediate repatriation of all US troops, by the Nixon Administration.

Your campaign eloquently reflects the legitimate and pressing demand of your people — to save the honour of the United States and to avoid for their boys a use, less death in Viet Nam. This is also a very relevant and timely answer to the US authorities who stubbornly persist in intensifying and prolonging the war of aggression in Viet Nam, in defiance of the protests of American and world public opinion.

The Vietnamese people and the world's peoples fully approve and warmly hail your just action.

The Vietnamese people insist that the US Government completely and unconditionally pull out of Viet Nam all US troops and those of foreign countries belonging to its camp, and let the Vietnamese people decide themselves their own destiny.

The Vietnamese people deeply cherish peace, but a peace in independence and freedom. So long as the US Government persists in its aggression in Viet Nam, the Vietnamese people will tenaciously fight on to defend their fundamental national rights. The patriotic fight of our people is also a fight for peace and justice, the very objectives you are pursuing.

We are firmly confident that with the solidarity and courage of our two peoples, with the sympathy and support of the peace-loving peoples in the world, the struggle of the Vietnamese people and of the progressive people in the United States against US aggression will end in total victory.

I wish your "Fall Offensive" a brilliant success.

Cordial greetings,

PHAM VAN DONG

Prime Minister  
of the Democratic Republic of  
Viet Nam

## Mr Xuan Thuy: "Mr Nixon Dares Not Make Public the Time-Table for US Troop Withdrawal Because He Wants To Prolong the War."

At the 38th session of the Paris Conference, Minister of State Xuan Thuy, head of the DRVN delegation, gave indications of the US scheme to prolong the Viet Nam war.

Since he came to office, the DRVN chief negotiator continued, President Nixon has unceasingly been increasing military actions in South Viet Nam in an attempt to create a "position of strength" from a "maximum military pressure."

The DRVN envoy exposed the Nixon administration's piecemeal troop withdrawal as a trick to appease American public opinion. He pointed out that the "de-Americanization" or "Vietnamization" of the war advocated by Nixon did not aim at ending the Viet Nam war but at continuing it under another form, which matches US-backed and commanded puppet troops against the South Vietnamese people.

On Nixon's recent refusal to make public the time-table for the total US troop withdrawal from South Viet Nam under the pretext that this would cause prolongation of the war, Mr. Xuan Thuy commented: "President Nixon dares not make public the time-table for US troop pull-out not because its publication would prolong the war but because he precisely wants to prolong it."

Concerning the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination, the Vietnamese representative said that so long as the US refuses to rapidly pull out all troops of the US and other foreign countries of the US camp from South Viet Nam without any condition, and tries to maintain the militarist, warlike and rotten Thieu-Ky-Khiem administration, President Nixon's protestation of US "respect" for the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination remains lip-service.

Mr Xuan Thuy emphasized: "If the Nixon administration really respects the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination, then it has no reason to reject the proposal of the

NFL and the KSVN PIG for a provisional South Viet Nam coalition government to see to general elections. There is nothing more fair and reasonable and nothing better than the above suggestion to guarantee real freedom and democracy for the general elections in South Viet Nam."

He then referred to the lively campaign in the US on October 13 involving tens of millions of people who unanimously urged that Nixon end the Viet Nam war, withdrawal immediately all US troops from South Viet Nam. He also recalled the resolution adopted by the Permanent Committee of the Stockholm Conference on Viet Nam in support of the American people's struggle, and the actions of the masses in many countries in the world to back the American people's moratorium.

Making clear the responsibility of the Nixon administration for prolonging the aggressive war in Viet Nam and the US military occupation of South Viet Nam, and for the Paris Conference's deadlock, Mr Xuan Thuy said:

"To break the Paris Conference's present stalemate and to reach agreement, the Nixon administration should:

"- Promptly withdraw from South Viet Nam all troops of the US and foreign countries of the US camp without laying down any condition, not by dribble, but totally, not drag on the troop withdrawal for many years but pull them out completely within a few months, not 'Vietnamize' the war but bring it to a final end.

"- Agree to the setting up of a provisional coalition government, put it in charge of organizing free democratic general elections in South Viet Nam and not the kind of "elections" advocated by the US and Nguyen Van Thieu and aimed at realizing the US neo-colonialist scheme."

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## The Liars Let Out Their Cloven Hooves

MORE ON THE MASSACRE OF WOMEN DETAINED IN THU DUC CAMP

AFTER being condemned for detaining and torturing 1,400 women patriots in Thu Duc concentration camp (South Viet Nam) and massacring a number of them, the American aggressive orders to their Saigon go-vets to issue a communal giving a blatant denial of the crime. The communiqué affirmed:

1. There is no detention house for women, but a "corrective camp";

2. In South Viet Nam only 500 women are used for detention for prostitution.

But a document published on June 10, 1969 by a US mission of investigation on the lack of freedom in South Viet Nam and sent to the American Congress testified that the US and puppet authorities had never been

such personalities as Bishop J. Armstrong and Mrs. Bennett, reported that:

"- The house of detention of women at Thu Duc was run by Minh (more precisely Duong Ngoc Minh, according to the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the South Viet Nam Republic).

"- Up to June 1969, 1,200 people were detained, including 843 'communists', a number given by the US-puppet authorities to those who stand for peace and neutrality and against the Saigon puppet administration.

"- The detention cells and wards were filled to capacity, which was all the more unbearable to pregnant women and nursing mothers. Fifty women, some of them with their babies, huddle in a room 12 metres long by 9 metres wide. According to a statement made by Minh to

## Hail Americans'...

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diplomatic developments in the next 10 or 20 days would considerably improve peace prospects in Viet Nam. Fortunately enough, the DRVN just gave a denial of these "secret contacts" tales and pricked all the bubbles manufactured in the White House laboratories!

In the above circumstances there is no wonder that large sections of the American people have bitterly urged since they have decided not to be victims of their President's adventurist policy.

What is worth noticing is the fact that no sooner had the "period of grace" ended than opposition to the war took on proportions which surpassed even those of Johnson time. It now includes the youths, students, black people, intellectuals, religious personalities, physicians, and even a growing number of politicians, congressmen and state governors. At the Capitol, Senator Goodell demanded that all US troops be withdrawn before the end of 1970, while Senator Fulbright decided to hold his "hearings" on Viet Nam at the Senate Committee for Foreign Affairs. In a mass movement of an unusual intensity, the "New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Viet Nam", backed by hundreds of organizations, initiated mass waves of protest beginning August 15 on the whole territory of the United States. Demonstrations, rallies of G.I.s' names lost in Viet Nam, everywhere echo the vigorous pressing of the American people to their Washington rulers, for an immediate end to the Viet Nam war of aggression.

Nixon was cynical enough to say that he would not be influenced by mass movements. But didn't Johnson and Bush declare the same thing and to spite of this they did not escape, under the impact of setbacks sustained in Viet Nam, from leaving finally to the people's will, de-escalating the war in South Viet Nam and agreeing to the convening of a quadripartite Conference with NFL participation?

The Vietnamese people are perfectly aware that the main factor which can bring the White House and Pentagon decisions back to their senses is their own determination to accelerate their efforts in this struggle against the US imperialists' aggression, but they know that special importance should be attached to concerting their action with the American people's fight to end the Viet Nam war.

On the occasion of the new wave of protest in the United States, we think it fit to quote the following from the 1969 New Year message addressed by our Great President Ho Chi Minh to American friends:

"I warmly hail the gallant struggle of our American friends whatever the colour of their skin, for an end to the aggressive war in Viet Nam by the US. I am convinced that a struggle which simultaneously helps our people's resistance fight, serves the interests and honour of the American people and safeguards the lives of their boys."

the American mission there in his jail 50 children up to 12 and 42 girls between 13 and 17. Sanitation was very poor. Most of the women had never been tried

### ARE THERE GIs IN LAOS?

PRESIDENT Nixon said on September 26, 1969 that no American combat troops operated in Laos. The next day Prince Souvanna Phouma followed suit.

These statements were contradicted on September 20, 1969, by the New York Times correspondent in Laos. According to him:

"The US aid to Laos totals 250 million dollars per year, but only 60 million dollars granted for technical aid is made public, the remaining earmarked for military expenditures is kept secret.

"In the strict sense of 'foreign military personnel' it

after many months of detention. The mission admitted that tortures and cruelties had been commonly used during detention and in questioning.

stipulated in the 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos, the US has 1,000 citizens involved in Laos. This does not include air flights and support units engaged in daily bombing missions in Laos.

Over one hundred US infantrymen and airmen on duty at US Embassy in Laos take charge of two most important tasks: military operational planning and logistic supplies to the Laotian army. American majors and captains are present on the battlefield, and work on operational plans for the Laotian army and also go to the front with the help solve logistic problems and give it air cover.

I had been somewhat stunned when hearing... a South Vietnamese woman, a dear elder friend of mine, who had come to the North for a visit early this year, say to Uncle Ho: 'We in the South, adding by your recommendations, fear no sacrifices nor hardships, nor even the eventuality of having to fight the US aggressors for a hundred years. The one thing we fear is that you Uncle will be "a hundred years old..." (meaning dead—Ed.).

I was moved by my friend's sincerity, moved by her candour. But how angry I felt with her! Why on earth did she say the very thing nobody even dared or wanted to say at all! Since Uncle's seventieth birthday virtually every Vietnamese had been worrying. Uncle had already surpassed the age which "few" had ever reached in all times! We all felt anxious, but dared not reveal it to ourselves, nor to our dearest ones. Yet, my friend bluntly told it to Uncle! Something flashed quickly, very quickly across the forehead, the eyes, the lips and the hoary beard of Uncle. His face turned old folks "turned ill". On the night of September 1 as Uncle was absent from the National Day commemorative

The weather turned oppressively hot. The degree of humidity rose. Our forebears used to call this phenomenon a "turn of Heaven". And when "Heaven turned" old folks "turned ill". On the night of September 1 as Uncle was absent from the National Day commemorative

"Uncle, our brothers down there are fighting quite well, our people are rallied."

"Will there be fireworks to rejoice the people during this year's National Day celebration?" Uncle asked again.

How great indeed! Not long before breathing his last, Uncle still thought of the South, of the happiness and joy of the people in the North. Whose heart was not wrung, out of love and affection for him, by such a story?

Yet... the morning of September 4 what a cruel morning indeed! When Voice of Viet Nam Radio blared out the "special communiqué," life in the capital city in the provinces of North Viet Nam and many places in the South, stopped short! For a minute, nay, for several minutes, the sky and the earth seemed to dim out. Houses, trees, flowers and leaves, jungles and mountains, rivers and canals, city and town streets, vehicles, factories, paddy fields... all seemed to turn round and round, to sway, to tremble. The firmament seemed to break asunder. The earth seemed to collapse. The air was hot as in an oven. And at the same time as cold as ice. And then, it rained heavily.

Our people deeply regret not having completed earlier the liberation of the South in order to welcome Uncle there!

Every one of us felt deep remorse. And every one was on his mettle to bring victory nearer.

Although nobody had told our another, workers came to their factories earlier, peasants tended the fields more carefully. Research workers sat lost in thought in laboratories.

meeting, Hanoi citizens felt the weather to be still more oppressively hot. No official announcement about Uncle's condition had come out as yet, but how many people already felt that Uncle was very unwell.

How indeed could we Vietnamese fail to feel something was happening to a man whose life was woven into our own lives, into the destiny of the nation? A man whom an entire nation has of its own will recognized as its supreme leader, its most venerated and beloved Teacher, Father, and Uncle.

There is part of the heart and the brain of Uncle in each patch of our land, each house, each vegetable leaf, each bowl of our daily rice, as well as in each of our children going to school, each drug we take when ill, each Vietnamese plane flying in the sky, each Vietnamese warship cruising on the sea, each big Vietnamese gun spitting fire on the enemy.

Uncle is to us our people and our Party like blood to flesh. When the blood sheds, the flesh aches. Groups of people gathered in public services, in the streets. The latest news was circulated as well as the loving anecdote: in his sick bed, Uncle asked: "How's the fighting going on down South these days?"

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Although nobody had told our another, workers came to their factories earlier, peasants tended the fields more carefully. Research workers sat lost in thought in laboratories.

The mutual love and affection that had always bound the entire nation became even more profound: one heart stopped beating, millions and millions of other hearts throbbled faster: Uncle Ho will live for ever...

DAY and night, streams of people silently filed into the Ba Dinh Conference Hall, to bid farewell to Uncle. But, where did Uncle go? Where would he get to? I spent several sleepless nights without being able to find a relevant answer likely to fit in with the reality, and with our feelings.

Did Uncle leave this world?

No! He did not want to leave this world at all! Neither does this world want to leave! The destiny of ours has been changed yearly and monthly with each passing year and each passing month by the actions rendered by Uncle and by our nation. The Japanese-French yoke crumbled: People's power was established. The Dien Bien Phu banner fluttered high in the sky. In the North, the life of slaves, of heifers of wood and drawers of water, was a thing of the past. Factories mushroomed. More and more five-ton paddy fields producing five tons of paddy per year on every hectare—Eds. are recorded. Formerly illiterate people now can read and write fluently. No more rags, and rice bowls are full. The out-of-the-way places, flowers come to formerly poor people. Labour becomes familiar with people formerly living on others' sweat. In face of the enemy's bombs and shells, people share rice, education, blood, and sweat with one another. South Viet Nam is resisting successfully the most cruel enemy of our time. It is continually attacking and rising up, winning more successes and becoming stronger in the course of the fighting. It is defeating the most brutal gangster of our time. The South is proving to be worthy of the title bestowed on it by Uncle Thanh Do To Quoc (Iron Citadel of the Fatherland). Uncle even expressed his desire to tour all of South Viet Nam...

Is Uncle gone to the sleep that knows not breaking?

No, he is well up and about. Uncle's thoughts are ubiquitous. Everyone bears them. "Nothing is so precious than independence and freedom." "Unity, unity, great unity. Success, success, great success." "Be loyal to the Fatherland, devoted to the people..." "We would rather sacrifice our lives than lose independence and be slaves."

Uncle is standing up, higher and nobler than ever. And more than ever before the number of people standing on their feet, stronger, and they are more resolved than ever before.

Have we "lost" Uncle?

No. Why do we "lose" him? Uncle and our people, our Party, our fight for national liberation, are one socialist revolution, are one cause. We can't lose him. We say that we have lost Uncle, since our people have grown in the number of other people steadily, and our revolution is advancing. Our people, and the world's peoples will find him and meet him in their revolutionary deeds, in their hatred for imperialism, in their love for peace and the old, for men and women. Everybody still meets him in moments of difficulty and hardship, in hours of glory.

Has Uncle gone up to "Paradise," to "Fairland"? No. To him, there is no such paradise as that on this earth of ours, where people are struggling, where flowers of victory are blossoming. Can there be greater happiness than that of dedicating one's life to the building a life of plenty for the people? Can there be any other life so beautiful as that on the mountains and rivers, the land of our Viet Nam, with its majestic mountains and hills, large seas and long rivers, full of waves and sunlight all year round, where each stone, each bridge span, each road and each paddy field is soaked with the sweat and the blood of our forebears who all along 4,000 years hacked mountains and blasted rocks to build and defend our homeland? Why should Uncle go to faraway places to look for an immaterial fairland?

Why then should we say that Uncle has departed from us for ever? Not until Comrade Le Duun had read out Uncle's testament did we have the answer. Uncle said that he would "go and join Keel Marx, V.I. Lenin and other elder revolutionaries."

Uncle said so to comfort us. So that we won't feel grieved. But we've understood, Uncle departs from us and is gone into immortality. To our 30 million fellow-countrymen, Ho Chi Minh is Truth.

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President  
HO CHI MINH  
having a try at  
irrigating a ricefield  
during an anti-drought  
drive at Quang To,  
Tien Thien village,  
Thanh Tri district,  
Hanoi (Dec. 1, 1955).



## OUR UNCLE HO

(Continued from page 3)

Nearly 30 years have gone by, still our people have not forgotten the words of Nguyen Ai Quoc, who called on us to rise up under the Viet Minh banner.

Nearly 40 years have gone by, still, we can picture him sitting on a football ground in Hong Kong, gathering together the genuine revolutionary groupings, welding them into an invincible Party of the working class and toiling masses of the Indo-Chinese peoples.

Nearly 50 years have gone by, still nobody has forgotten the first internationalist declaration of Viet Minh, which took part in the founding of the French Communist Party, declared to follow the path of Lenin, wrote newspaper articles, calling on poor people to rise up, called on the oppressed peoples to stand up to liberate themselves. That fighter lived solely by and with black folks in Africa, with workers in the United States and Britain, and worked in international communist organizations.

Nearly 60 years have gone by, still we seem to see that patriotic young man, with empty hands and devoted love for the Fatherland, leave his country and his family to go in search of a path to national salvation, to liberate the toiling masses and the oppressed peoples.

Since the birth of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, all through a quarter of a century, every step, every word, every heart beat, every breath and every smile of Uncle had mingled with those of our combatants and countrymen throughout the country at every stage of the struggle to defend the independence and freedom already gained.

South Viet Nam, then all of Viet Nam, rose up to wage a war of resistance. The (North Viet Nam - EDA) Border campaign. Then the Dien Bien Phu victory, the liberation of North land belongs to the tillers, and factories are under the ownership of the working class. Laboratories belong to the intellectuals, literature and art for and by the people. When the US law grabbers stepped into the shoes of the French aggress-

sors in the South, Uncle, again called on us to resume the fighting. Simultaneous uprisings in the South. Political struggle, armed struggle. The US "special war" went bankrupt. The US war of destruction in the North was smashed. General attacks uprisings throughout South Viet Nam.

The sacred spirit of our land and the marvelous fight of our people, of our Party have moulded a leader of genius who, in turn, guided us and together with us advanced to a high peak of the revolution. Uncle's revolutionary cause is our cause. Our revolutionary cause is Uncle's cause. Today, that cause, its way, its means, its success, Uncle has gone to join Karl Marx, Lenin, the great Soviet Union, the great China, Nguyen Hue, and Uncle firmly believed that the revolutionary cause of our nation, of our working people will be carried on to victory.

It seems that Uncle is smiling to us. Optimism and confidence.

There he lies, in his glass-topped coffin. He leaves to us his broad forehead, his soul pure than crystal, his golden heart, and a pair of rubber tyre sandals.

Under his broad forehead was a great brain. That brain thought a great deal about state affairs, about the people's life, about the revolutionary movement in the five continents, about the loyalty and love of the masses, about the same ideal. That brain also cared for the kitchens of the army units, the bath-houses of the peasants, the sanatoriums of the old people, the household chores of women at every stage, the style of work of the cadres.

That brain cared for the temple dedicated to the Hung Kings who founded the country thousands of years ago for the factories, state farms, the dining halls, boarding houses and schools for the present and future generations. That brain also cared for friendship among the nations and solidarity among revolutionaries all over the world.

Uncle's heart was filled with love for the people, for his countrymen and comrades, for the old and the

young, for men and women, in both zones South and North of our country, and also for our citizens abroad, for all honest people on earth. Uncle loved the workers, leading a precarious life in South Africa to the black people victims of racial discrimination in the United States.

Uncle's love and affection really watered the vegetable leaves, the inches of land around every house, the tomatoes and the cucumbers, the thymus camito from South Viet Nam, and even the bamboo tree from India. His was a heart that loved friends and hated foes, and was always true to itself. That heart reminds us to love and unite with one another.

Uncle's pair of rubber tyre sandals have followed him here, to this day. For the first time in world history, the President of a country wore the sandals of a worker. Uncle Ho changed the name of a country "Annam", a colony, into the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. World literature also calls that pair of sandals "Ho Chi Minh sandals".

There lie the sandals, as simple as Uncle's style of life, as battle-hardened as Uncle's revolutionary career, as popular as Uncle's simple manners. Uncle travelled in these sandals on the jungle tracks of Dai Po, and Dien Bien. Uncle's nephews and nieces have also been using such sandals to climb up the Truong Son and go down the Mekong river delta. Ho Chi Minh sandals on the Ho Chi Minh road.

There lie the sandals. They have become the symbol of a style of life, of the virtues of a great man. In the glass coffin, the life of our Uncle Ho appears in all its purity, its flawlessness, its simplicity, its revolution, flawless toward the Fatherland, toward the people, toward the Party; flawless toward his countrymen and his comrades; flawless with his patriotism and his sense of self-support and self-reliance; flawless in his daring to fight and win; of a people who dare to fight, who know how to fight, who are not afraid of any formidable, very brutal enemies. For over half a

## Uncle Ho's Uniform

MADE during the first national war of resistance, it was worn by Uncle Ho throughout it, hence its name "resistance garments" which differentiates it from the khaki costume Uncle has now gone down in history as the one worn by Uncle on the day of the Declaration of Independence in 1945.

Uncle Ho had also a green uniform, a change of flannel trousers with pyjamas for heat, a button and a field jacket, the latter being the gift of a victorious army unit. In the frontier battle, he gave it to a wounded soldier who was shivering with cold.

The jacket of the "resistance garments" had in its upper part a big patch which had its own history. It was during the Frontier campaign. Uncle Ho travelled with a message like a rice around his waist, green camouflage on his helmet and a touch on the forehead. He had to wear it with army carriers taking supplies to the front. One day, walking by an old man, he congratulated him: "How ripping you set for your sandals with your help, the front." "Not so ripping

Newspapers all over the world fronted the portrait of President Ho Chi Minh and ran a banner hoisted with Viet Nam. The more one loves Viet Nam, the more one eschews luxuries, schools and research institutes, crowds of people gathered. At pagodas in a number of countries, memorial services were held. Flags were flown half-staff in many towns and cities. Performances were called off. Banquets and parties were cancelled. How great was the shock and grief and sorrow of the world's peoples was!

Our Uncle Ho, who remained modest all his life, vowed to be a humble disciple of Lenin and a servant of the people. But when his present closed, history flung its door wide open to welcome him, and the future radiates his aureole.

We have read the finest tributes to Uncle Ho, sent in from all over the world. "A genius of our time," "A legend hero."

A source of hope in a world in turmoil. "A shining symbol of the twentieth century."

These words, we believe, come from the bottom of the hearts of the people. Like a flock of half-fledged birds, their flight light illuminated by the light left behind by Uncle Ho, the light of the vanguard Party which has become steady and strong, we are flying with outstretched wings toward a bright Tomorrow.

LUU QUY KY

"Let Doan" means to unite. President Ho Chi Minh often closed meetings and rallies by inviting the audience to join in singing this song. He himself would beat the time. "Truong Son, mountain range, mountain range, the whole length of Viet Nam from North to South.

# New US Frustrations in South Vietnam after Autumn Offensive

Excerpts from a recent article by the *Communist of the paper Quan Gial Phong* (Liberation Army), South Viet Nam, entitled *See Disarray in the US-Puppet Hanks during the Autumn Storm and the Irreversible Trend of Their Failure in the War of Aggression in South Viet Nam*

OUR OFFENSIVE BRING ABOUT US-PUPPET FIRST MAJOR SETBACK, NAMELY, THE IMPOSSIBILITY TO MAKE THEIR STRATEGY, TACTICS AND DEFENCE MEASURES EFFECTIVE.

THEIR battle army is going from bad to worse and the contradictions in the disposition of their forces are ever more aggravated. Moreover, their forces have been spread thin to cope with the situation on all battlefields, from the jungled mountains to the delta plain, along communication lines and in the cities. Their combat maneuver forces are not large. The US First Air Cavalry Division - the enemy's mobile mass of maneuver in the 3rd Tactical Zone - has been pinned down in enclaves scattered over an area 120 km by 60 km covering the 3 provinces of Phuoc Long, Binh Long and Tay Ninh. In their increasingly serious passivity, US-puppet encampments and enclaves have come under constant attacks. In such circumstances, on-the-spot reaction of the main battle they generally adopt; reinforcements deployed by dribbles often dig in to stard their ground.

SECOND MAJOR SETBACK: ALL US-PUPPET STRATEGIC FORCES ARE TROUNCED AND CONTINUE TO WEAKEN WHILE THEIR DE-AMERICANISATION PLAN PROVES ILLUSORY

AFTER the August and September onslaughts by our armed forces and people, the US-puppet strategic forces have been faced with this agonizing dilemma: inability to carry the burden of the war which, like a bottomless pit, is swallowing up everyday thousands of American, puppet and satellite lives and increasing difficulties in replenishment.

In the 45-day period, from August 1 to September 15, 1969, our armed forces and people exacted a toll of over 65,000 enemy troops, among them 25,000 GIs and satellite soldiers. In strategic units, they wiped out or decimated 5 brigades and regiments, 24 battalions and battalion-size units, and 129 companies of US and puppet troops. As a rule, infantry makes up a small portion in the US expeditionary corps, i.e. about 23 per cent of combat forces which represent 60 per cent of all forces. Casualties among them are heavy and most replacements have received no training, hence their poor efficiency. The US command, moreover, inclined to substitute fire power for strike power, hence indifferent combat effectiveness.

Mobile troops are scarce and they are bottled up in enclaves and enclaves while they are forced onto the defensive. Furthermore, American troops must thin out to support puppet troops in relief operations, in various encampments

and enclaves and therefore are exposed to higher attrition rate with the result that both masters and servants take high casualties.

Troop shortage is particularly acute in the puppet army. Casualties and desertions average 40,000 men a month. That is why, the Thieu-Ky-Hinh clique are pushing up military draft while resorting to tricky troop transfer, such as turning members of "popular defence" into "civil guards" and transferring the "security forces" and "civil guards" to main force units and the general reserve. Even though, they are still unable to fill the gap because of the ever growing casualties and desertion rate. The combat effectiveness of the puppet army, too, has declined visibly. Recently, they were forced to draft during raids account for more than 70 per cent of the total. Their inadequate training and their unwillingness to serve as cannon-fodder for the Americans make them quite unfit for fighting. If once aircraft, tanks, howitzers or technicians is also serious; therefore the puppet army is entirely dependent on the American troops for fire support and logistic supply.

The morale of both US and puppet troops is at its lowest ebb. Defeatism has become rampant among the ranks. Flooding with action, leaving the dead on the battlefield, massive desertions, disobedience, demonstrations for repatriation, refusing battle, lack of aggressiveness during military operations often occur.

What worries the US-puppet commanders very much is that such war weariness has spread right in elite US units more alarmingly, such as the collective anti-war action taken in combat by Alpha Company, Battalion 3 of the 106th Infantry Brigade (Aug. 22), the Que Son valley (Aug. 22), or by many troops of the First Air Cavalry Division at Phuoc Vinh (Aug. 29), etc. Mistake firing when the troops are in panic also happens from time to time, as when Battalion 18th Airborne Cavalry Regiment, in Hon Quang (North of Saigon), shot dead 12 air cavalrymen when they were moved in to relieve the battered HQ of Brigade 5, 1st Air Cavalry (Aug. 20). In many engagements, dead GIs have been left on the battlefield by the hundred, as in the "oi Day and Lovia battles (Northwest of Saigon).

As for the puppet army, desertions assume greater and greater proportions, the monthly average now running to 15,000 men. They increase steadily in even larger numbers. And special Forces units too, Martin and protest are gaining momentum. There are many typical incidents, such as the case of a group of artillerymen of the puppet gth Division at Vinh Binh city (the 10th division), a soldier of Battalion 4, Regiment 50, who moved down several high-ranking US Saigonee officers

because the latter prevented the puppet troops from mourning for President Ho Chi Minh. Under such circumstances how can the US-puppets solve the problem of troop shortage and improve the fighting capacity of their defeated army and at the same time withstand the repeated onslaughts of the South Vietnamese armed forces and people?

The Americans have no other choice than reliance on tanks, aircraft and artillery in the hope of reducing casualties among their foot soldiers. However, because of the excessively low fighting spirit of both the GIs and Saigonee troops, their motorized force is far from making the most of its strike power. In many cases, both the GIs and the Saigonee troops abandon their vehicles to run for their lives. Meanwhile, the number of enemy aircraft shot down or destroyed in this 45-day period is 4 times as many as in the corresponding period of last year. In the flights of 2 or 3 aircraft and swarms of 7 or 8 engines completely put down in a single battle have been reported.

Thus all the measures regarded by the Americans as the key, the going to the extreme, the puppet army remain impracticable. Their "de-Americanisation" plan has virtually gone bankrupt. They will never succeed in realising this sinister and foolish plan. Not a few US senators have expressed doubt over the speed of "Vietnamizing" the war upon hearing Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, Wheeler, testify before the Senate Armed Services Committee (AFP, Washington, Aug. 28). An American officer who has worked for 10 months in the Mekong Delta area has said, "If they (i.e. the puppet forces) can hold their own, I'm going to be very surprised." UPI on Aug. 10 acknowledged that a number of high-ranking officers themselves, including General Westmorland, did not believe in the administration's policy of Vietnamizing, tactics by using South Vietnamese troops (i.e. puppet troops) to replace the Americans. The French paper, *Le Figaro*, on Aug. 28 bluntly said that the possibility of South Vietnamese (puppet) troops really replacing the US expeditionary troops is merely a pipe dream. Mr. Nixon knows it very well.

It is safe to say that even in the future when the puppet army has completed its modernisation plan, it will still be unable to replace US troops and stand the powerful onsets of our armed forces. Because, by then, in comparison with its American counterpart, a puppet division's armament will still be inferior, and the proportion will be one-fourth for machine guns, one-third for artillery, one-third for mortars, one-sixth for

tactical air support, one-sixteenth for helicopters and one-sixth for transport and armoured cars, to say nothing of ammunition, fuel and spare parts supplies which are much smaller and maintenance facilities which are much poorer.

Under the successive offensives mounted by the South Vietnamese armed forces and people, even though the puppet forces are elected to cling to the US expeditionary forces, they are still unable to hold their ground. Now can they escape their own doom when the GIs have to pack off? Looking back at the course of events from its beginning, we see that formerly, as the puppet troops could not resist our armed forces and people, they were sent to fight the war which cost it tens of billions of dollars every year. Yet both masters and servants sustained disastrous setbacks. Short of a miracle the Americans will not be able to reinvigorate the puppet army, which is already miserably carrying out the US scheme to Vietnamize the war.

THIRD MAJOR SETBACK: THE RESULTS OF "ACCELERATED PACIFICATION" MERELY EXIST ON PAPER

COUPLED with the plan for "de-Americanisation" of the war is the "accelerated pacification" programme which has been regarded by the US and its lackeys as a strategic measure very important in all respects, military, political and economic. And so they have been devoting much effort to it. The hotly contested areas are the delta plain, the populated areas on the fringe of cities, provincial capitals, district towns and along communication lines, and especially the Mekong Delta. They have mustered from 50 to 70 per cent of the puppet main force and the bulk of the "security forces" and "civil guards" in the 4th tactical zone. With extremely brutal and cunning means, they have been carrying out armed repression along with deceptive political manoeuvres, using intelligence and spy agents, "the Phemics" men-to-strike at revolutionary bases, resorting to psychological warfare and "open arm" tactics to win over defectors and weaken our armed forces and the revolutionary masses, set up machines of coercion to crack down on the people, and stepping up military draft in a brazen manner. They have also been applying the "pacification" plan. Now they use the leapfrog tactics to catch us unawares or make deep thrust into the liberated areas; now they send in a force composed of regular troops, "security forces" and secret and spy agents on internal and provincial level in a definite area in an effort to

(Continued page 7)



# New US Frustrations in South Viet Nam...

## SUPPORT TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE'S FALL OFFENSIVE

• The Viet Nam Committee of Solidarity with the American People held on October 14 in Hanoi a meeting in support of the American people's Autumn campaign for an end to the US war of aggression in Viet Nam. Phan Anh, lawyer, Vice-President of the Committee, delivered a speech in which he recounted the development of the American people's struggle which led to the Oct. 15 campaign, and hailed the participation of US progressive forces in it.

• On Oct. 15, a similar rally was called at Hanoi university by the Viet Nam Students' Union.

• On Oct. 14, Premier Phan Van Long sent to the American people a message welcoming the present outburst of action in the USA (see Page 1).

• Professor Hoang Minh Gian, President of the Viet Nam Committee of Solidarity with the American People, also sent the American people a message wishing their Fall Offensive full success.

## AMERICANS IN SAIGON DEMONSTRATE AGAINST THE WAR



On October 15, more American demonstrators picketed the US Embassy in Saigon to protest against Nixon's war.

THE movement against Nixon's war has spread to American civil servants and seamen in South Viet Nam.

Western agencies reported that on Oct. 14, leaflets had appeared in downtown Saigon calling on demonstrators to support the campaign launched the next day all over the United States. According to AFP, fifty American public servants picketed the US Embassy in protest against the US war in Viet Nam.

The demonstrators sent to Nixon a letter saying: "At the moment when millions of Americans are expressing today their opposition to the

war in Viet Nam, we want to join our voices to theirs. We are aware of the suffering of the Vietnamese people. We declare that this war must be ended. We demand immediate withdrawal of all US troops."

They also asked Hunker, Nixon's representative in Saigon, to come and observe with them a minute's silence in memory of the GIs who died uselessly in South Viet Nam. They added that their friends did the same at their working site.

AP reported that many GIs in "American" Division stationed in the Lai region, southeast of Da Nang, wore black armbands as a sign of

## IN THE UNITED STATES: NEW WAVE OF ANTI-VIET NAM WAR PROTEST

THE 1969 autumn sees a vigorous development of the American people's movement against the Nixon administration's continued aggression in South Viet Nam. Waves of popular anger have been sweeping the United States. The righteous voices of the youth, people and all those in the United States who have peace and justice at heart have been raised throughout the country to resolutely defend the honour of the United States and their legitimate interests.

October 15 was a significant landmark. UPI said

"the Viet Nam Moratorium began with demonstrations from coast to coast, abroad and at sea." AP said it was "the biggest protest so far against the Viet Nam war."

other to condemn Nixon's war policy and demand a prompt withdrawal of US troops.

THE significance and goal of the American Fall Offensive is as clear as daylight. The common desire of the most active fighting forces are: "To end immediately the war of aggression in Viet Nam, withdraw immediately and totally the US troops, stop all the bombings, and remove all US bases in South Viet Nam. 'The 'Stop the war in Viet Nam' and 'Bring all our troops home immediately and in one piece' slogans were prominently featured in all demonstrations. Aware of the relationship between the criminal aggressive war of the Nixon clique in South Viet Nam and the ugly and gloomy situation in the US, the forces taking part in the Fall Offensive have also denounced racial discrimination, inflation, tax increase and high living cost and other social ills.

BIG cities were involved in this widespread campaign: New York, Washington, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Minneapolis, Cambridge, Cincinnati, Indiana, Baltimore, etc. Many universities, public squares and churches as well as the Congress, military bases, garrisons, draft centres took part in it. The movement impetuously drew in youth, militarymen, manual and white workers, including prominent figures in the state apparatus: men and women, young and old, white and coloured people formed a solid and broad front. Crossing the border of the US, the campaign spread to France, Italy, Great Britain, Japan, Saigon as well as US bases at Long Binh, Chu Lai...

VARIEGATED forms of struggle were used. According to AFP, meetings and parades took place in streets, public squares, universities, public services, various towns and cities, even apart from the State Assemblies and the White House. Social and political personalities, even high-ranking officials took the floor during these demonstrations. To condemn Nixon's clique, apart from leaflets, slogans and teach-ins, people carried symbolic coffins, wore black armbands, tolled tocsins, planted crosses and flew flags at half-mast. In many churches, clergymen said prayers all day long as a token of their participation in the general movement. I wear it (black armband) to show that I sympathize with the anti-war demonstration back home. Personally, I think the demonstration should go on until (President) Nixon is removed from office. Another American serviceman told *Tender* correspondent on October 15: "The war drags on. If you get killed, you are an embarrassment, not a hero. You only become a hero back home if you refuse to fight."

### TO THE READER

We are aware that there is much room for improvement in the wording of our paper. We apologize for this shortcoming and highly appreciate all your suggestions as they will help us to serve you more efficiently in future.

(Continued from page 5)

flush us out. They also deploy regional troops stationed at various posts in encroaching attacks while increasing the bombing and shelling to a high degree of intensity, including the use of toxic chemicals and B-52 strategic bombers against crop fields and gardens to force the people out of their native villages into areas temporarily under their control.

In short, the so-called "accelerated pacification" programme of the US-puppets is substantially a heap of crimes so heinous that even stones will cry out, a series of "plunder all, destroy all" operations, a campaign of white terror with savage killing, mass arrests and mass detention which play havoc among the families, and drive tens of thousands of people into a miserable life.

THE US and its lackeys, however, are beset with unpredictable difficulties. It is the disparity between the aim of their "pacification" drive which is supposedly to win the minds and hearts of the people and their brutalities which arouse popular anger to the highest point and trigger the people's grim struggle. US-puppet atrocities are no sign of their strength. On the contrary they further expose their predicament and decline.

Seeing through the enemy decay, people of many localities have turned up guerrilla warfare and the local PLAIF have provided effective support for them to rise up, liquidate scoundrels and "pacifiers," smash "civil defence" teams, break the enemy's grip and seize power in areas still under enemy control. In the Mekong Delta provinces, including Ben Tre, My Tho, An Giang, Can Tho, Rach Gia, and Ma Lai, and the central provinces from Quang Tri to Binh Thuan have fought stubbornly, with the coordinated action of the 3 categories of troops and the guerrilla tactics. They attack the enemy on raiding operations, besiege enemy posts, carry out agitation work among enemy troops, hit at enemy aircraft, amphibious tanks and hovercraft. As a result, they have foiled many main "pacification" drives launched by the enemy and succeeded in maintaining revolutionary power in the liberated zone and seizing power in enemy-controlled areas such as in Ba Tri, My Cay and Gieng, from Ben Tre, to Chuoi, Binh, Ben, Tri Ton and the Vinh Te canal area (An Giang), Long My, Route 20 sector adjacent to Highway No. 19, Thanh Hung (My Tho), the Xa No canal sector (Can Tho), areas in the vicinity of Vinh Long city, etc.

As political agitation is kept up in urban and suburban areas, there has been a slow-down in the enemy's "pacification" and the program has met with a significant setback. In many places, the people have broken away from "strategic hamlets" and concentration centres and returned to their former villages where they hold on to their fields and gardens to produce. In many localities, the people join the PLAIF in building fighting villages with the firm determination not to yield an inch; they resolutely resist the enemy and at the same time boost production, contributing manpower and material resources to the anti-US resistance for national salvation.

With the strength of the line of invincible people's war, with a judicious guideline, and with their own efforts, our armed forces and people are dealing staggering blows at the "pacifiers" right in their key "pacification" areas and making short work of their system of coercion and threat to inflict total failure on the US-puppet "pacification" programme.

The tide is turning in our favour. Defence Secretary Melvin Laird himself has bitterly admitted that the results of the "accelerated pacification" work merely exist on paper. On Sept. 12, 1969, the *International Herald Tribune* remarked that it took the adversary only one or two overnight attacks to sweep away any progress just achieved in the field of pacification.

FOURTH MAJOR SETBACK: MILITARY REVERSES HAVE GIVEN RISE TO A SERIES OF DIFFICULTIES AND SERIOUS POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC TROUBLES IN SOUTH VIET NAM AND RIGHT IN THE U.S.

IN the face of Nixon's perfidy and duplicity during his 8 months in office, and of the fact that he keeps slipping along the track of Johnson's war chariot, and with the burden of the costly war weighing heavily on their shoulders, the American people have been stepping up their campaign for an end to the aggressive war, the recall of US troops, the right of the South Vietnamese people to settle their internal affairs themselves. Their action is gaining in strength and in scope, and is drawing in various strata of the American people, including a number of well-known political figures. Many young Americans who are unwilling to go and die in Viet Nam for the selfish interests of a number of American gundealers and war maniacs have refused induction, burnt their draft cards or sought asylum abroad.

The US imperialists are finding themselves face to face with a historic truth: of all the war the US has fought, the Viet Nam war is the most strongly criticized and condemned by the world's peoples and opposed by the American people. This is an eloquent proof of the isolation of US imperialism—the international gendarme, showing that no amount of Nixon's viciousness and trickery can preserve the US position and influence now nodding to their fall. The US is at the nadir of its prestige.

This has aggravated the divergences within US ruling circles. Controversy over Nixon's handling of the war is growing hot among the American public and officials. Nixon is finding himself at the crossroads. Pressure comes on the one hand from the hawk and on the other from a good many politicians who still have some sense of reality and who want to get the US out of the aggressive war. Therefore, Nixon's quandary continues. Differences also grow between the US and its puppet regime. Therefore, Nixon's quandary continues. Differences also grow between the US and its puppet regime. Therefore, Nixon's quandary continues. Differences also grow between the US and its puppet regime. Therefore, Nixon's quandary continues.

For all US efforts to revive the moribund Saigon regime, the Thieu-Ky puppet administration has more and more revealed its utter rottenness. Compelled to change horses mid-stream, the Americans staged the farce of reshuffling the Hanoi Cabinet. However, this move, far from helping improve the situation, has only exposed the Saigon puppet stage further. Undoubtedly unattractive is a government composed mostly of generals notorious for their bellicosity and corruption, and the "labourite-personalists" who had for some time joined the Diem and freewheelers of colonial offensives and uprisings during Autumn, the South Vietnamese armed forces and people have progressed further along the road towards total triumph. The US puppets are heading towards ever greater disasters.

Realities on the South Viet Nam battlefields after Autumn 1969, show the US imperialists that they can never secure a position of strength to end the war to their advantage. To seek a position of strength in a losing posture is sheer wishful thinking.

The obstinacy and mad reaction of the US-puppets will make the fighting sharper, but this can in no way change the inevitable course of events which boils down to this: the more the enemy obstinately squirms, the heavier his failures will be and his final doom is a foregone conclusion.

The only honourable way to terminate the war in accordance with the American people's desire is for the US to pull out its troops totally and completely without laying down any conditions whatsoever, to cease trying to bolster up the Thieu-Ky clique and to let the South Vietnamese people settle their own affairs themselves.

US hope to use the reactionary puppet Thieu-Ky-Khiem administration to impose neo-colonialism on South Viet Nam is just a pipe-dream. It will vanish under the impact of the increasingly devastating blows of our armed forces and people.

In the economic and financial fields, their difficulties are multiplying. Particularly since the beginning of this year, the economy of the puppet regime has been declining substantially. Its budget deficit is very serious. It runs to more than 50 billion piastres for 1969, an inflation of 62 billion. The cost of living is soaring. The prices of daily necessities have doubled or trebled.

Corruption is rampant. Many Western correspondents have remarked that the Saigon puppet regime is one that makes corruption its way of life and war its living. Some people (implying Thieu, Ky and Huong) can hardly last long.

Life is harder and harder, especially for the urban people. Even

members of the puppet army and administration at lower echelons are having a hard time because their scanty salaries cannot keep pace with skyrocketing prices. The struggle for vital interests and democratic rights in the cities and the countryside has greatly emboldened the puppet administration.

The above setbacks and difficulties have lost driven the US puppets into a blind alley and a general crisis and will certainly lead them to total failure.

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## US-Puppet Crimes

(Continued from page 8)

sentenced to 15 years imprisonment; Mr. Phan Van Nhon, Director of the French-language newspaper *Le Viet Nam nouveau*, to 3 years' imprisonment; Mr. Nguyen Thi Editor-in-Chief of the English-language paper *Saigon Daily News* 5 years' imprisonment, etc.

In the first nine months of this year, to Saigon papers have been closed down.

In the first five months of 1969, the US-puppets conducted over 2,000 police raids in the vicinity of Saigon. Particularly in the raid on the night of January 20, nearly 10,000 people were searched or arrested.

(Based on documents of the Committee To Denounce US-Puppets' War Crimes in South Viet Nam)

① Saigon Front and Mekong Delta: 2,500 GIs and Puppet Troops Put out of Action; 14 Vessels Sunk or Burnt (Including Two 10,000-Ton Freighters).

② PC of a Battalion of US Infantry Division 4 Hard Hit in Western High Plateaux.

**PLAF** men continued to hammer at the enemy in the Saigon region and Mekong Delta in the first ten days of October.

On the 1st, 2nd, 5th and 6th, regional troops launched four onsets in two sectors in Binh Long province: near Loc Ninh (115km north of Saigon); 40 GIs and 2 US platoons and 4 armoured

Further Southwest, in the Mekong Delta, PLAF men delivered hard blows to the enemy who lost in four provinces alone 150 men from Oct. 2 to 10 (350 in An Giang province on the 5th, 6th and 7th, and 300 in Ben Tre, night of Oct. 5, 150 in a counter raid in Tra Vinh province from Oct. 8 to 10 and 150 in Ca Mau province).

## Military Operations

cars destroyed and 2 choppers downed near Hon Quoi (65km north of Saigon). In the same area, the enemy took 80 casualties on Oct. 5, 7 and 8.

In Tay Ninh province, 90 GIs in Khe Don camp (107km northwest of Saigon) were disabled by the PLAF on Oct. 6.

40km southeast of Saigon, a Thai company lost 6 men on Oct. 10, where on Sept. 21 last about fifty of them had been wiped out.

In My Tho province (left bank of the Mekong river), about 30km from Saigon, 700 enemy casualties were reported and 13 military vehicles wrecked in 4 days ending Oct. 8. On the night of Oct. 4 alone, 40 targets were hit and a toll of 350 adverse submers was exacted by the PLAF.

Successful attacks were made against enemy navigation and naval forces. On Sept. 28 and 29 and Oct. 2 and 6, in the Nha Be canal, above Saigon, in the Eastern Yam Co river, northwest of Saigon and Gieng Troc river (Ben Tre province) the patriotic forces sank or burnt 15 vessels, killed or wounded 90 GIs and puppet troops; two 10,000-ton cargo ships were heavily damaged near Nha Be.

Besides, on Oct. 4, the CP of a battalion of Brigade 1, US Infantry Division 4, (15km northwest of An Khe, in the Western High Plateaux) was stormed; 75 GI casualties listed and five 105mm cannons and stamm mortars destroyed with their emplacement.

# US-PUPPET CRIMES

1. FRANTIC TERROR RAIDS, MASS MURDERS, AND POPULATION CONCENTRATION FOR "MAXIMUM MILITARY PRESURE"

TENS of thousands of raids have been conducted by US-puppet troops in the last eight months, from Quang Tri to Ca Mau, many of them very big, such as the one by over 8,200 US-puppet and Pak Jung Hi troops in Ba Lang An area in Quang Ngai province in more than one month ending late February, or the one by more than ten thousand US and puppet troops in Dau Tieng area, Thu Dau Mot province, from March 17 to 31, or an operation by over 12,000 troops of the US-puppets in many areas in Quang Nam and Quang Ngai provinces in the July-August period.

During the actions in Ba Lang An, for example over 300 inhabitants were killed on the spot, and 1,200 others were later deliberately drowned in the sea, while 11,000 others were taken away to concentration camps. Within a few months, as many as 1,150 civilians were massacred in the Eastern part of Thang Binh district, Quang Nam provinces, while 900 others were slain in Duy Xuyen, Dai Lac and Que Son districts. The enemy also herded thousands of other peasants from these areas into concentration camps.

During the sweeps on Na Phen, Thuan Hung and Long Phu village (Can Tho) from March to July, the enemy made away with nearly 6,000 people.

the past eight months. Small but highly populated areas have been subject to such attacks, each receiving as many as 2,000 tons of bombs each time. From April 22 to May 5, B-52s flew about 800 sorties against the Duong Minh Chau area in Tay Ninh province, dumping on it a total of 24,000 tons of bombs. The Western High Plateaux province of Kontum was attacked with more than 20,000 tons of bombs between June 7 and 27. On June 10 alone, Vinh Hoa Hung village of Rach Gia province was pounded with thousands of tons of explosive.

Air and artillery bombardments by the US against the Kong H'Ring area in Kontum province on February 23 resulted in over 350 inhabitants killed, and more than 1,000 others wounded. Similar attacks were conducted on the various "strategic hamlets" in Vinh Xuyen area, An Giang province, on June 18 and 19, destroying 700 houses and killing or wounding large numbers of peasants.

3. INTENSIFIED CHEMICAL WARFARE

OVER 30 provinces across South Viet Nam have been sprayed with toxic chemicals, many of them time and again, like Quang Tri, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Bien Hoa, Gia Dinh, Long An, My Tho, Ben Tre, Tra Vinh, Can Tho, Soc Trang and Ca Mau.

US aircraft on the three days ending March 18 doused with noxious chemicals the Phu Huu, An Khanh, Phu Quoi, Thanh Loi and My Thuan areas in Vinh Long province, over a length of 60 kilometers. In the first half of June, 6 mountain districts of Quang Ngai province were attacked with noxious chemicals. In February alone, over 200 people died in chemical raids in Gia Dinh, Long An, Tay Ninh, Bien Hoa, and My Tho provinces.

In Tay Ninh province, on July 18 and 20, over 30 children were killed by toxic chemicals. In early August, in Phuoc Binh, Phuoc Phu and Phuoc Mang villages in Ninh Thuan province alone, 72 inhabitants died from US poisonous substances.

The US has many times used noxious gas and spread the agent known as CS on the provinces of Quang Nam, Tay Ninh, Ba Ria, and Can Tho and the vicinity of Saigon, killing or seriously affecting many people. More heinous was still in their raid in Binh Nam village (Quang Nam) US troops pushed to old peo-

ple and one pregnant woman into a shelter, then flushed it with toxic gas, killing all of them.

4. ILLEGAL DETENTION

At present, hundreds of thousands of patriots, peace-lovers and sympathizers of the neutrality of South Viet Nam are in US-puppet jails. These victims are put to the torture at any time without trial, and receive insufficient food rations and drinking water. They are confined in stuffy, narrow cells. The sick are given no medical treatment.

Mr. Ho Ngoc Nhuan, a "deputy" to the Saigon puppet national assembly, after returning from a visit to Paulo Condor said on February 13, 1969, that the number of prisoners on this offshore island jail had doubled that in Ngo Dinh Diem time. He said there was only one physician to look after every 8,000 inmates. 300 of them, aged about sixty and seriously ill, received no medical attention. Some 200 teen-agers were groundlessly detained there and were as ill-treated as adults...

Of course, the truth was much more unpleasant.

The savage methods applied in August in the Thu Duc prison against 1,400 women detained there have stirred a strong wave of protest in the world.

5. REPRESSION AND PERSECUTION OF URBAN PEOPLE

To intimidate the townsfolk now militating actively for peace, independence, democracy and neutrality, the US and Saigon puppets have taken many ruthless measures against them.

Nguyen Van Thieu has many times in the name of the Saigon puppet administration declared his readiness to crack down on any one who is for neutrality and the establishment of a coalition government and demands the restoration of peace in South Viet Nam.

In Saigon alone, tens of thousands of Buddhists, intellectuals and students favouring peace and neutrality have been imprisoned and illegally sentenced. Superior Monk Thich Thien Minh, Vice-Director of the Hoa Dao Institute, was

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PLAF guns hammer at a U.S. position.